

2621^{#6} BT
11-20-01



Atty. Docket No. 005329
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Shirley HEMAR, et al.

Appln. No. 09/876,955

Group Art Unit: 2621

Confirmation No.: 4359

Filed: June 7, 2001

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For: **ALTERNATING PHASE-SHIFT MASK INSPECTION METHOD AND APPARATUS**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

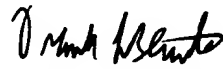
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No. 09/876,955

waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: October 5, 2001

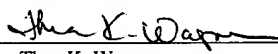
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Thea K. Wagner